



City of La Porte

Established 1892

Police Department

Recognized as a Best Practices Agency by  
the Texas Association of Police Chiefs



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## **La Porte K-9 teams stay active in both training and competition**



**LPPD K-9 Teams**

**L to R: Officer Michael Harness & Sylvester, Officer Jesse Arenivas & Lodka, and Officer Barry Groaning & Hooligan**

With narcotic activities being an ongoing problem throughout Southeast Texas, La Porte maintains an active K-9 unit which provides a highly-trained handler and dog for each patrol shift. Yet, as all skills are perishable, training for such K-9 teams is vital to their effectiveness. Therefore, in addition to their weekly training sessions in and around the Harris County area, LPPD K-9 teams participate annually in the National Narcotic Detector Dog Association's national training conference.

This year's competition and training conference took place in Paris, Tennessee, and included over 140 teams from across the nation, including a few participants from Canada. La Porte officers trained and competed in various skills competitions over the week-long conference, and were exposed to a variety of drug-detecting scenarios. Environments included both indoor and outdoor exposure, package and luggage discrimination, vehicle detection, commercial vehicle transport, and many other areas.

Narcotic detection dogs are trained and constantly refreshed on utilizing their detection skills in discovering hidden drugs such as cocaine, marijuana, as well as other highly transported and frequently used drugs. Equally important, the handlers are exceedingly dedicated to their mission, and keep up with current legal and procedural trends in order to ensure they, and their canine partners, remain on top of their game.

To learn more about the La Porte Police Department's K-9 program, or any of the agency's operations, log onto <https://tx-laportecivicplus.com/454/K-9-Unit>.